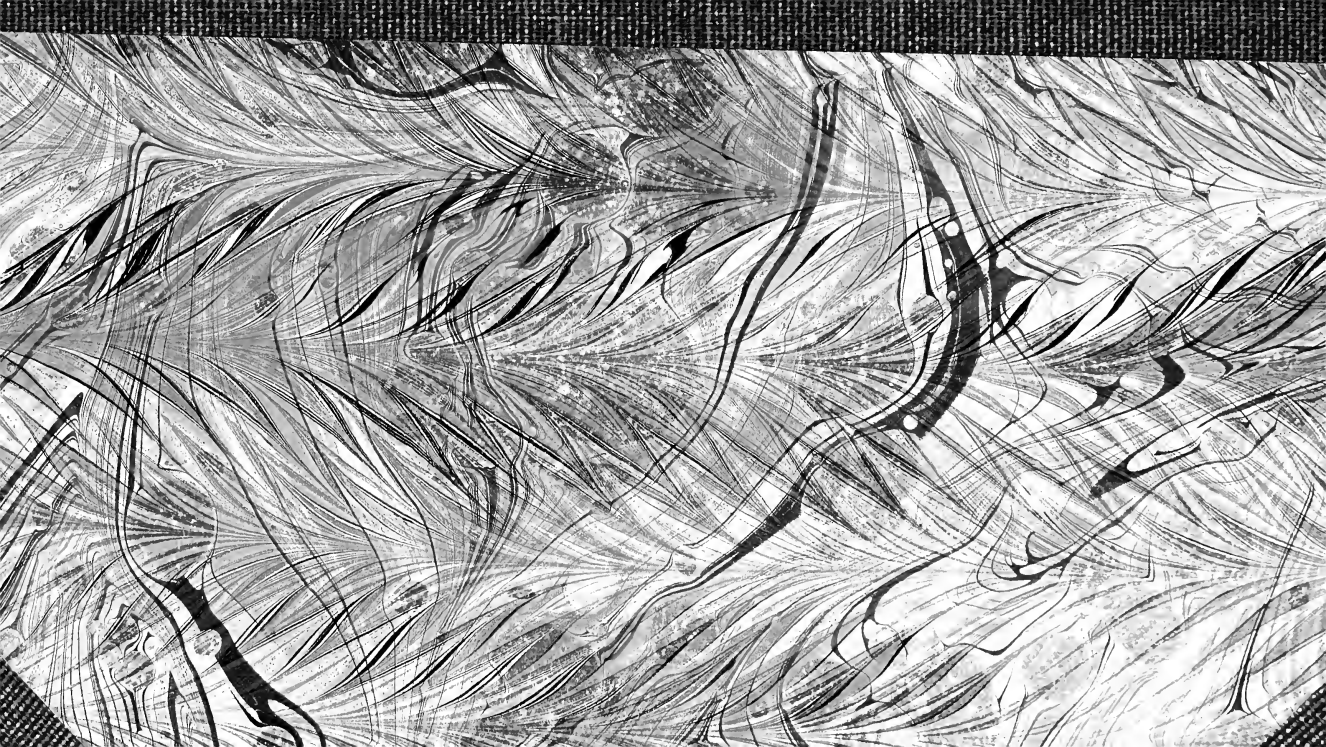

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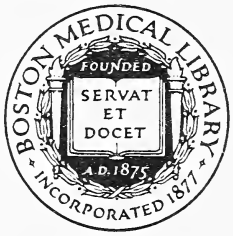

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THOUGHTS

ON

GENERAL AND PARTIAL

INOCULATIONS.

CONTAINING

A Tranſlation of Two Treatiſes written when the Author was at Peterſburg, and publiſhed there, by Command of her Imperial Majeſty, in the Ruſſian Language.

ALSO

OUTLINES OF TWO PLANS:

One, for the general Inoculation of the Poor in ſmall Towns and Villages.

The other, for the general Inoculation of the Poor in London, and other large and populous Places.

BY THE HONOURABLE

BARON THOMAS DIMSDALE,

Firſt Phyſician and Actual Counſellor of State to her Imperial Majeſty the Empreſs of all the Ruſſias, and F. R. S.

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EL. 520

TO THE

LEGISLATURE

OF

GREAT BRITAIN,

THESE TRACTS,

ON A SUBJECT EXTREMELY INTERESTING
TO THE COMMUNITY,

ARE MOST RESPECTFULLY ADDRESSED BY

THE AUTHOR.

INTRODUCTION.

TO preſerve the lives and health of the inferior part of mankind has been an object carefully attended to in all civilized and well regulated ſtates, not only from motives of compaſſion, but becauſe it has been plainly demonſtrated that it is the intereſt of the wealthy in every nation to encourage population, and provide for the wants of the poor.

One would indeed, on the firſt thought preſume, that the unavoidable neceſſities of the indigent would be voluntarily relieved out of the abundance of their opulent neighbours; but the number of laws that

 have

have been made for the proviſion of the poor, are proofs of the futility of this expectation, and the neceſſity of compulſion.

Among the many objects that have been provided for, it ſeems matter of aſtoniſhment that no one has ever pointed out the Small Pox as a diſtemper, whoſe deſtructive conſequences might be in great meaſure prevented by the interpoſition of Legiſlature, and the aſſiſtance that would be certainly afforded from private charity.

It is now above fifty years ſince Inoculation was introduced into this country, and like other new inſtitutions was then oppoſed; but at preſent, though it may be impoſſible to define the numbers that are yearly inoculated, it is certain that moſt of the wealthy approve and avail themſelves

ſelves of the practice: yet we view the Bills of Mortality with unconcern, though they demonſtrate that the number of deaths from this diſeaſe is conſiderably increaſed; and with the affecting circumſtance, that they are probably of the younger part of the people.

Although this matter has not been attended to here, it did not eſcape the penetration of the Empreſs of Ruſſia; who, with a regard to the happineſs of her people that deſerves much greater commendation than I am able to beſtow, was extremely ſolicitous to render Inoculation general among her ſubjects: and it was with a view to this that ſoon after the recovery of the Empreſs and Grand Duke from this operation, her Majeſty was pleaſed to command me to write their caſes, with the principal occurrences during the Ino-

 culation,

culation, from an idea that being publiſhed they would tend to the removal of prejudices, and the advancement of a practice ſhe had much at heart to encourage.

Her Imperial Majeſty alſo frequently did me the honor to converſe freely on ſeveral points reſpecting the natural Small Pox and Inoculation; and having been pleaſed to approve of the manner in which her enquiries and doubts were anſwered, I was afterwards commanded at different times to give in writing the ſubſtance of what had been advanced on theſe occaſions. Theſe orders were obeyed, the tracts tranſlated into the Ruſſian language, and as I imagined, were only intended for the peruſal of the Empreſs. But in the year 1770, my treatiſe on Inoculation, with the following tracts,

was

was publiſhed at Peterſburg by her Majeſty's command:

I. An Account of the Inoculation for the Small Pox of her Imperial Majeſty, Autocratrix of all the Ruſſias.

II. An Account of the Inoculation for the Small Pox of his Imperial Highneſs the Grand Duke, the Heir of all the Ruſſias, by Baron Thomas Dimſdale, firſt Phyſician to her Imperial Majeſty.

III. Remarks on the Book, intitled, The preſent Method of Inoculating for the Small Pox, written by the Author now at St. Peterſburg.

IV. A ſhort Deſcription of the Methods propoſed for extending the ſalutary Practice of Inoculation through

through the whole Ruſſian Empire.

V. A ſhort Eſtimate of the Numbers of thoſe who die of the natural Small Pox, with a View to demonſtrate the Advantages that may accrue to Ruſſia from the Practice of Inoculation, &c.

A tranſlation of theſe tracts, with ſome further remarks on Inoculation, and a relation of my journey to Ruſſia, has been preparing for the Preſs; but on ſome accounts unneceſſary to be entered on here, is deferred.

Indeed, my appearance as a writer now is earlier than I intended, on account of a plan that I have ſeen of a Diſpenſary for inoculating the poor of London at their own houſes, in which ſome plauſible reaſons for ſuch

ſuch an eſtabliſhment are advanced; but I think they are much more ſpecious than ſubſtantial; and that the plan itſelf is fraught with very dangerous conſequences to the community, and not like to anſwer any good purpoſe if put in execution. Wherefore I thought it a duty owing to the public to publiſh theſe ſentiments on the ſubject, that none ſhould inadvertently miſapply their charity ſo as to do miſchief when good was intended.

In purſuance of this deſign, it ſeemed not improper to begin with the two laſt of the tracts that were wrote at Peterſburg in the year 1768, as my opinions on the ſubjects treated of remain the ſame as at that time. But I deſire that what is advanced in them, or may be found in the ſequel, that tends to diſcountenance the practice of Inoculation by perſons who

who have not had a medical education, may not be conſtrued as a deſign to affect any of the family to whoſe mode of practice Inoculation is indebted for ſome conſiderable improvements; nothing can be farther from my intention, for I have been at all times diſpoſed to do them juſtice, and allow all the merit that is their due.

In fact, I am an advocate for Inoculation; and wiſh the deſign of extending the benefit to the poor may be ſo conducted, as to afford its enemies as few opportunities of objecting to it on any ſolid ground as poſſible; and that the affair may be ſo well underſtood, as to make it plain in what manner charitably diſpoſed perſons may moſt uſefully employ their benevolence.

A Description of the

METHODS

PROPOSED

For extending the salutary practice of Inoculation through the whole Russian Empire.

Written at Petersburg by her Imperial Majesty's first Physician Baron THOMAS DIMSDALE.

In Obedience

AGREEABLE, to the orders received from her Imperial Majesty, I shall endeavour to demonstrate in a clear and concise manner the destructive effects of the Small Pox in the natural way, and the safety and advantage of Inoculation, even when performed after the old manner; and afterwards exhibit the improvement of the method, being the same which is now introduced into this great empire.

It will not be in my power to execute this plan with the accuracy I could wiſh, being engaged in an employment that demands much time and attention. But I will uſe my beſt endeavours to deſcribe in the firſt place a method of propagating the practice of Inoculation, ſo that it may not be dangerous to thoſe in the neighbourhood, who, either on account of bad health, age, prejudice, or other reaſons, are unwilling to ſubmit to the operation, and at the ſame time render it ſalutary to ſuch as are proper objects and approve of it.

It is not to be ſuppoſed that the method now practiſed in England ſo ſucceſsfully, can be received in Ruſſia without ſome alteration. The experiments however which I have made in England, in order to aſcertain the moſt commodious manner of conducting the affair, may be of uſe here; which I ſhall therefore deſcribe as clearly as poſſible. * * * * *

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In the original publiſhed in Ruſſia, there followed a circumſtantial account of the houſe I had built for the accommodation of my patients in England, and the manner of conducting the proceſs, &c. there; which, as it would be of no conſequence or uſe to inſert in this tranſlation, I have omitted. * * * * *

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One, and indeed no inconſiderable advantage derived from a plan of this ſort is, that by collecting all the patients together in one houſe, the phyſician will be enabled to attend a great number at the ſame time in a proper manner, and alſo to pay particular attention to ſuch as may more immediately require his aſſiſtance.

And it is of no ſmall importance to thoſe who have been inoculated, that the neceſſary regulations in reſpect to regimen, as well as every other circumſtance that requires the phyſician's attention, may here be properly obſerved.

There is likewiſe another advantage obtained by this method, that, with proper caution, the Small Pox will not be communicated to others in the natural way of infection.

Notwithſtanding all theſe conveniencies it will doubtleſs happen here, as it did in my neighbourhood, that many perſons of diſtinction will rather prefer the inoculation of their families at their own houſes. In this caſe it is ſubmitted to the wiſdom of government, whether it would not be proper to give orders that ſuch perſons ſhould give public notice of their intention to inoculate, mentioning the time when the operation is to be performed, and alſo of their perfect recovery. By theſe means ſuch as have not had the Small Pox, will have it in their power to avoid the infection.

So much with regard to the accommodation of perſons of rank, who may be inoculated under one or the other abovementioned regulations. But the poor cannot enjoy thoſe advantages. Humanity

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however and the intereſt of the ſtate equally demand, that all poſſible attention ſhould be beſtowed for their aſſiſtance and preſervation.

In order to attain this end, I know of no better or more certain method than that which I followed, on charitable motives only, in my own neighbourhood, by inoculating all the inhabitants of a village who had never had the Small Pox, on the ſame day: and, if this be performed in a proper manner, they might be all duly viſited, and proper medicines adminiſtered at a moderate expence, and the whole be over in about three weeks: after which, this village would have nothing to apprehend from the Small Pox for ſome years. According to this plan, it will be unavoidably neceſſary that every child ſhould be inoculated for the Small Pox ſoon after its birth, or that inoculation ſhould be performed in every town or village once in five or ſix years. This laſt method I would rather recommend, and therefore, in order to make this propoſal perfectly

in-

intelligible, I ſhall endeavour to explain it more particularly.

A liſt of the names and ages of ſuch inhabitants of every town and village as have not had the Small Pox, is the firſt neceſſary ſtep to be taken; and marks ſhould be made againſt the names of thoſe who on account of their ill ſtate of health, or other reaſons, are not thought fit ſubjects for the operation in the judgment of the inoculator; and ſuch perſons ſhould be provided with a ſeparate place of abode, where they may not be in danger of receiving the infection: the reſt ſhould be collected together in one place, inoculated at one time, and proper medicines, with directions ſpecifying the time and manner in which they are to be taken, ſhould be diſtributed to each individual. On the fourth day after the inoculation they ſhould again be aſſembled together, the punctures examined, and ſuch farther medicines given as the inoculator may think proper. After the ſeventh the patients ſhould be examined daily; for from that time to the eleventh, or perhaps fourteenth, is a period

riod that requires more particular attention. During the whole of this time, and indeed throughout the whole proceſs, the ſick may continue at their own houſes. And it may be reaſonably preſumed, that there will be a ſufficient number of ſuch as are but ſlightly indiſpoſed, who may be able to aſſiſt the others, ſo as to make the expence and trouble of nurſes unneceſſary. But we muſt alſo ſuppoſe, that of the very great number inoculated there will be ſome who may have the diſeaſe ſeverely, or whoſe caſes may require more conſtant attendance than they can poſſibly have at their own habitations. To provide for ſuch extraordinary inſtances, therefore, a proper houſe and other conveniencies ſhould be previouſly appointed, to which they ſhould be removed when thought neceſſary.

It will be impoſſible to determine preciſely how many patients may want ſuch attendance, and conſequently difficult to provide exactly the neceſſary accommodations; but I imagine there will not be more

more than four or five out of one hundred.

The diet of all ſhould conſiſt of vegetables, milk, bread, and the like; and in ſome caſes a little mutton-broth may be allowed. The drink ſhould be nothing but water, unleſs by the particular direction of the inoculator.

But in order to ſecure the obſervance of this regimen more exactly, all ſalted proviſion and every kind of ſtrong liquor ought to be removed from the place, and every neceſſary precaution taken to prevent the patients from procuring any. In reſpect to medicines, the preſcriptions being agreed on by the faculty, a ſufficient quantity ſhould be prepared, and proper doſes, agreeable to the different age and conſtitution, put up ſeparately, and diſtributed by the inoculator among the patients, with directions in what manner they ſhould be adminiſtered; and their recovery ſhould be completed with ſome proper purgative.

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A licence or exclusive permission ought to be granted to such physicians or surgeons as undertake to inoculate for the Small Pox; for the mischief arising from the practice of inoculation by the illiterate and ignorant is beyond conception *. Such persons,

* To enumerate the instances that have happened within my own knowledge to confirm this assertion, would be almost endless; I shall only mention a few that are remarkable.

I was desired to visit a young woman about ten miles distant; I found her dying from the inoculation of a man, who, upon the credit of having been my coachman, had set up inoculator: he was gone on the pretence of procuring my assistance, but in fact had ran away; this was his thirteenth patient.

Another illiterate person in my neighbourhood began the practice; but a child he had inoculated happening to have a fit, he was so frighted as to elope till he was informed that his patient was out of danger.

I received a letter from a poor man who kept a school about eight miles from Hertford, to inform me, that not being able to pay a proper person, he had ventured to inoculate his own family himself, and begging a visit on account of one of his children who he feared was in danger: I complied with his request, and found one child dying of a confluent pock; but my compassion abated, on finding his house filled with some poor neighbours from whom he received a small gratuity for their inoculation, one of which had lost an eye under his

perſons, inſtead of confining the infection within narrow limits, too often, through want of ſkill or honeſty, are the means of propagating it, to the great terror of many people, the fatal conſequences of which, and the deſtructive tokens, remain in many places in England. For beſides the dreadful mortality which the diſeaſe itſelf has occaſioned, it has often proved the ſource of diſcord and contention among neighbours, and diſturbed that harmony and friendſhip which had before ſubſiſted among the inhabitants.

care. This man's reſidence was in a ſmall town, and from his patients ſeveral caught the Small Pox, and ſome died.

I ſaw a poor woman dying of a confluent diſeaſe; her huſband had raiſed money for his own inoculation, and having had the diſeaſe favourably, was aſſured by a farmer who inoculated him, that he might ſafely go home to his family. The wife died, leaving five children, who all had the diſeaſe and recovered.

At a village not far from Hertford, the ſame farmer inoculated as many of the pariſh as could raiſe five ſhillings and three-pence, informing the others that the Small Pox was not catching from the inoculated; but the whole neighbourhood became infected, and ſeveral died.

To conclude, I beg this ſmall treatiſe may be conſidered only as an imperfect ſketch drawn up in haſte; but if it ſhould be approved of, and her Imperial Majeſty be pleaſed to command me to enter into farther particulars, I will employ my utmoſt endeavours to render it more perfect, and alſo aſſiſt in the execution of any part of what has been therein propoſed.

A ſhort eſtimate of the number of thoſe who die of the natural Small Pox, with a view to demonſtrate the advantages that may accrue to Ruſſia, from the practice of inoculation.

It is needleſs to expatiate upon the havock which the Small Pox makes in moſt parts of the known world: probably there is not a country, city, or ſmaller community, which has not experienced its devaſtations in its turn. The very idea of it is inſupportable; but its real effects, in places unappriſed and unacquainted with the proper treatment and remedies againſt it, are not leſs general and fatal than the plague itſelf.

Though this fact is generally allowed, yet many, I think, are ignorant of the immenſe loſs mankind ſuſtains by this diſtemper. It may not be amiſs therefore to ſhew, from well atteſted accounts, the proportion of perſons who die of the natural Small Pox: for which purpoſe it will be neceſſary to chuſe ſome country or city where an exact regiſter of the births and deaths, as well as an accurate liſt of diſeaſes, is regularly kept.

Dr. Jurin, ſecretary to the Royal Society in London, carried this into execution in 1722, ſoon after Inoculation had been introduced into England, being deſirous of ſhewing the different effects of the natural and inoculated Small Pox.

I ſhall not here inſert all that was publiſhed by this ingenious author, as the whole may be found in the Philoſophical Tranſactions of the Royal Society, under N° 374. The following extract will be ſufficient for my preſent purpoſe.

The

The Doctor for forty-two years ſelected from the Bills of Mortality in London, ſuch as died there of the Small Pox and other diſtempers. His obſervation may appear perhaps ſomewhat extraordinary: nevertheleſs he makes it plain, that out of 1000 infants, 386 die under two years of age, which is conſiderably more than one third. He then deducts ſuch as he ſuppoſes die of the diſeaſes natural to infancy; and afterwards proceeds to demonſtrate, that if the whole bulk of mankind be taken at the age of two years, the eighth part will die of the natural Small Pox; and that of ſuch as have it in the natural way, one in five or ſix dies.

With reſpect to my own calculations on this ſubject, I endeavoured to find out whether the Small Pox proved equally fatal after the time mentioned by the Doctor. With this view, before I left England, I procured the Bills of Mortality of the City of London for the laſt thirty-four years, excepting two, which could not be found. Of theſe I made a table, which I have added at the end of this

this treatiſe. I was ſurprized to find the number for theſe thirty-two years paſt tally ſo exactly with the obſervations made by Dr. Jurin.

On examining the table it appears, that within theſe laſt thirty-two years 760,098 perſons have died, and of thoſe 268,529 have been infants under two years of age, which agrees with Dr. Jurin's calculation, in being rather more than one-third of the whole.

I ſuppoſe, with Dr. Jurin, that the deaths of theſe were occaſioned by different diſeaſes incidental to infancy, and I deduct them out of the whole number, viz.

760,098
268,529

The remainder is 491,569

It appears likewiſe that in the ſame courſe of time there died of the Small Pox 66,515, which confirms Dr. Jurin's account, and indeed exceeds the eighth part. Hence we may fairly conclude, that in general the Small Pox carried off the eighth part

part of thoſe who died in London in the period abovementioned. I procured alſo the beſt accounts I poſſibly could of the whole number of thoſe who had had the diſeaſe from places where the Small Pox had raged moſt, and found, that near one out of five died who had had the diſeaſe in the natural way. This alſo agrees with Dr. Jurin's obſervations. We ſee then that even in London, where the climate is temperate, the diſeaſe well known, and the treatment of the ſick very ably conducted, this ſingle diſeaſe deſtroyed more than the eighth part of the inhabitants.

But if we turn our eyes towards other dominions, and give credit to the accounts told us, we ſhall find the diſeaſe ſtill more fatal, and in ſome cities it is almoſt as deſtructive as the plague.

It is impoſſible for me to aſcertain with any degree of certainty, the preciſe number of perſons who die annually of the Small Pox in Ruſſia. I am perſuaded however, both from good intelligence as well as my own obſervations, that it is

ex-

exceeding fatal here. Though I cannot confirm this aſſertion by proofs, yet from ſome converſation with the learned I am credibly informed, that of thoſe who have the Small Pox in the natural way one-half die, including the rich and poor.

It ſeems hardly neceſſary to ſhew, how much the riches and ſtrength of ſtates depend upon the number of inhabitants. But perhaps there is not any country in which the certainty of this poſition is more indiſputable than in Ruſſia; for not only the ſtrength of the empire, but the riches of every individual alſo, muſt be in proportion to the degree of population. If therefore in London, which enjoys the many advantages already recited, more than 2000 perſons die annually of the Small Pox, we may ſurely ſuppoſe, that the loſs which Ruſſia in its whole extent ſuſtains by this diſtemper in the ſame ſpace of time, amounts to two millions of ſouls. And this havock muſt greatly retard the increaſe of the human ſpecies.

There are ſome diſeaſes peculiar to old age, which terminate a life almoſt entirely ſpent, and totally uſeleſs to the community.

Such diſeaſes, conſidered in a political ſenſe, are not hurtful to the ſtate. But the Small Pox ſpreads deſtruction chiefly upon the younger part of the ſpecies, from whoſe labours in their ſeveral callings the public might otherwiſe have expected advantages beyond all computation. The diſappointment and loſs incurred is of courſe neither to be calculated nor conceived.

A diſcourſe upon this ſubject might be extended to a great length; but it ſeems unneceſſary to enlarge, eſpecially when I conſider to whoſe judgment this eſſay is with all humility ſubmitted.

The public, I am perſuaded, muſt be ſufficiently convinced from fact and demonſtration, that Inoculation is the only means of preventing the miſchiefs ariſing from the Small Pox.

In a former treatiſe I have laid down a plan for an effectual method of general practice, by which the ſpreading of the natural Small Pox will be prevented, and the cure of the inoculated rendered as eaſy and ſafe as poſſible to the patient.

I have therefore nothing more to add but my wiſhes, that the empire of Ruſſia may meet with the utmoſt ſucceſs from this diſcovery, under the reign of ſo illuſtrious and beneficent a Sovereign.

Years.	General Lift of Deaths.	Deaths from Small Pox.	Under two Years of Age.
1734	26062	2688	10752
35	23538	1594	9672
36	27581	3014	10580
37	27823	2084	10054
38	25825	1590	9600
39			
1740	30811	2725	10765
41	32169	1977	10456
42	27483	1429	9030
43	25200	2029	8621
44	20606	1633	7394
45	21296	1296	7689
46	28157	3236	9503
47	25494	1380	8741
48	23869	1789	7637
49	25516	2625	8504
1750	23727	1229	8204
51	21028	998	7483
52	20485	3538	8239
53	19276	774	7892
54	22696	2359	8115
55	21917	1988	7803
56	20872	1608	7466
57	21313	3296	7095
58	17576	1273	5971
59	19604	2596	6905
1760	19830	2187	6838
61	21063	1525	7699
62	26326	2743	8372
63			
64	23202	2382	7637
65	23230	2498	8073
66	23911	2334	8035
67	22612	2188	7668
	760098	66515	268529

An objection to the practice of Inoculation considered.

FROM the time that Inoculation was introduced into this country one may date the oppoſition to its practice; many learned and ingenious men ſoon entered the field againſt it, and were encountered by others of equal abilities in its defence. The queſtions were warmly agitated, and in a ſhort time foreigners of great name became authors on both ſides. But the ſtrength of argument on the part of the defenders of Inoculation, ſupported by the good ſucceſs of the practice, hath almoſt ſilenced oppoſition; and the concurrence of the courts of Peterſburg, Vienna, and France, who have ſubmitted to the operation, and by their illuſtrious examples encouraged its progreſs in their dominions, will probably cloſe the diſpute in its favour.

One

One objection alone ſeems not to have been ſatisfactorily removed, which, although it does not relate to the ſafety or health of the patient, is yet of great importance to the community, and well deſerves the moſt attentive conſideration.

You have, ſay the objectors, produced accurate and ſatisfactory accounts and calculations of the alarming proportion of deaths that happen from the natural Small Pox, and alſo proved, that the loſs ſuſtained under Inoculation is inconſiderable. But admitting what you have advanced to be true, whence comes it that the ſame Bills of Mortality to which you appeal, prove alſo a certain increaſe inſtead of a diminution of deaths from the Small Pox, and that for ſuch a ſeries of years as to leave no room to diſpute the fact? does it not naturally follow, that though almoſt the whole number of the inoculated recover, the diſeaſe muſt have been ſpread by their means, and a greater proportion having taken the natural diſeaſe, a conſequent greater loſs has been ſuſtained by the

public? If the above is admitted, it will be difficult to exculpate Inoculation from having been hurtful to ſociety *.

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* Extract from the Bills of Mortality, and a continuation of the eſtimate from page 19.

	Total of Deaths.	Small Pox.	Under 2 Years.			
1768	23639	3028	8229	Total Deaths	178807	
69	21847	1968	8016	Under 2 Years	63056	
70	22434	1986	7994			
71	21780	1660	7617	18821)	115751	(6
72	26053	3992	9112		2825	
73	21656	1039	6850			
74	20884	2479	7742			
75	20514	2669	7496			
	178807	18821	63056	Totals.		

By the above table it will be found, that with reſpect to the proportion of infants to the total number of deaths, there is ſtill a ſurpriſing agreement with both the former eſtimates; the number of thoſe under two years of age remains to be ſomewhat more than one-third of the whole.

But if we purſue the ſame method as before by ſubtracting the infants,

178807
63056

the number will be 115751

which now amounts to ſomewhat more than one in ſix; whereas before it was about one in eight.

But

Several attempts have been made to obviate this objection, many of which I have peruſed; but conſiſtent with my intention of brevity, and avoiding all controverſy, I ſhall decline entering into particulars, or inſerting any quotations from authors. It will be ſufficient to ſay, that although the arguments advanced have been ingenious, and in ſome reſpects juſt, they do not in my apprehenſion remove the objection that has been mentioned.

Let us ſee then whether the practice may not be fairly chargeable with ſome blame; and this will appear more evidently, if we take a view of the uſual conduct of families on ſuch occaſions; which however pertinent to the queſtion, ſeems hitherto to have been avoided, or not attended to, by the ſeveral writers on the ſubject.

But if the eight years are divided, it will appear that the deaths from the Small Pox in the firſt four years are 8642; the medium for each of thoſe years will be 2166.

For the laſt four years the numbers are 10179, the medium for each 2544; an increaſe that is truly alarming, and well deſerving the attention of the public.—For the *preſent* I ſhall forbear any remarks.

In London it has been the general cuſtom for thoſe who intend to inoculate, to take into account all the circumſtances that may be material for the conveniency of their families and friends, and theſe being ſettled to their minds, few precautions are thought neceſſary reſpecting the ſecurity of others: what paſſes previous to the eruptive fever, does not claim our conſideration, ſince it is univerſally allowed that no infection can be communicated before that time; but it is after this period the danger begins, and the diſeaſe may be ſpread by the intercourſe of viſitants, trades people, waſherwomen, ſervants, and others, and in a mild ſtate of the diſeaſe, the frequent excurſions of the ſick by way of airings, and often in hired carriages of various kinds, contribute greatly towards ſpreading the infection. It would perhaps be deemed a deſigned omiſſion, if the inoculators were not alſo ſuppoſed to be of the number of thoſe that contribute to ſpread the diſeaſe.

When all theſe circumſtances are duly conſidered, ſurely it will be allowed, that the

the Small Pox is frequently caught from the inoculated; and let it be remembered, that whoever takes the diſeaſe from an inoculated patient, has himſelf the natural Small Pox, with all the circumſtances of danger in reſpect to his own life, and of ſpreading the contagion to others.

I know it has been ſaid, and even publicly declared, that the Small Pox from Inoculation is ſo mild, as ſcarcely to be infectious to others; but if this was true, how comes it that matter, taken from inoculated patients, conveys the diſtemper with equal certainty, as if it was taken from the natural Small Pox? is it not morally certain, that the effluvia partake of the ſame infectious quality? No phyſician of any experience, I am ſure, will ever countenance ſuch an opinion. But leſt it ſhould prevail, and do miſchief among the ignorant and credulous, I think it incumbent on me to contradict ſo dangerous and unwarrantable an aſſertion.

In fact, it is certain that the Small Pox is infectious, in proportion to the number

and malignity of the puſtules; and ſo far there is uſually leſs danger from the artificial diſeaſe, than from the natural. But let not this preſumption make any [redacted] remit their care, or abate their concern for the community; for I can aſſert from my own knowledge, that * many fatal inſtances have happened from the diſeaſe having been ſpread by the inoculated.

Having conſidered the ſubject as fully as I am able, it ſhall be left to the conſideration of the public without any comment; only entreating every family that may inoculate, to be extremely careful, and uſe every poſſible precaution to prevent ſpreading the infection during the illneſs, and to be alſo particularly attentive, that all furniture and cloaths be well aired. The perſons concerned in inoculating ſhould, on their parts, take great care that they do not contribute to the miſchief.

If ſtrict attention is paid to theſe particulars, it may be reaſonably hoped, that

* Vide note page 9.

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the only remaining objection to the practice of Inoculation in London among perſons of condition, may be much weakened, if not entirely removed.

On general and partial Inoculations in the country.

THE preceding tranſlated treatiſes having been calculated for Ruſſia, which in many circumſtances differs from England, and in particular that the will of the Sovereign there is moſt implicitly obeyed, cannot be expected to contain all that may be neceſſary to be conſidered, and attended to in this country.

Nevertheleſs, the general principle of the regulation, ſo far as it relates to public Inoculation in towns and villages, may be attended to, and of ſuch places I mean to treat firſt, and of London and other populous places afterwards, for reaſons that will be ſufficiently evident in the ſequel.

In order to be fully acquainted with the ſubject, it ſeems neceſſary to take into conſideration, the mode of conducting this affair in the country, which I do not remember

member to have ever ſeen circumſtantially publiſhed; thoſe who have wrote on the ſubject, having for the moſt part contented themſelves with repreſentations of their ſucceſs only.

In the county of Hertford, there have been two methods of public or general Inoculation, one to inoculate, at a low price, as many of the inhabitants of any ſmall town or village, as could be perſuaded to ſubmit to it, and at the ſame time were able to pay, refuſing all thoſe who had it not in their power to procure the money demanded.

The other method has been, where the inhabitants of a town, or diſtrict, of all denominations, have agreed to be inoculated at the ſame time, the pariſh officers, or ſome neighbouring charitably diſpoſed perſons, having firſt promiſed to defray the expence, and provide ſubſiſtance for ſuch of the poor, as were unable to pay for themſelves.

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The partial method firſt mentioned has been attended by much miſchief, and ſufficiently refuted the abſurd opinion endeavoured to be propagated by intereſted perſons, that inoculated perſons do not communicate infection; innumerable are the inſtances which have happened of the diſeaſe being caught from the inoculated, and too evident to be denied; and ſo many of theſe have died, that an opinion not leſs abſurd than the former prevails in Hertfordſhire, that thoſe who take the Small Pox from the inoculated rarely recover.

The method of inoculating every one in the ſame neighbourhood together has ſucceeded ſo happily, that it ſeems only neceſſary to determine what is the moſt reaſonable and frugal way of conducting the buſineſs; and if joined to this conſideration proper attention is paid to airing and cleanſing the patients, their cloaths and habitations, as much as poſſible, from the power of infection, all the benefit that can be derived from general Inoculation will be effected, many valuable lives will be preſerved to the community, and the inhabitants

habitants made happy, on being releaſed from the apprehenſions of a viſit from this cruel diſeaſe.

As I can from conſiderable experience ſpeak with ſome confidence on this ſubject, I ſhall proceed to relate the obſervations that have occurred to me. Aſſiſted by my learned friend Dr. Ingenhouz and my two ſons, I inoculated, at different times, the neighbouring pariſhes of Eaſt Berkhamſted, Hertingfordbury, Bayford, and the liberty of Brickenden; in each of theſe places the whole number of poor were inoculated, with the exception of thoſe who were objectionable. I do not at preſent remember the exact number, I believe they might be more than 600; but know that they ſucceeded happily, though there were ſeveral very old perſons, and women in different periods of geſtation; and this mode of practice, as I have been informed, has been alſo uſed ſucceſsfully by many others in different parts of England.

So far as has come to my knowledge, general Inoculations have hitherto been confined

confined to ſmall towns and villages; yet as the further extenſion is very much to be wiſhed, it may not be improper to relate ſome particulars of what paſſed in Hertford, which is doubtleſs the largeſt, and moſt populous town, that has ſubmitted to the experiment of inoculating at the ſame time the whole number of its inhabitants.

In a former publication, I gave an account of the occaſion and ſucceſs of a general Inoculation at this place; from that time the town was releaſed from any apprehenſions of the diſeaſe, until the year 1770, when it appeared again, and two or three having died, a few perſons were inoculated, and excited an alarm. On this occaſion, the poor in my neighbourhood flocked in numbers, beſeeching me to extend to them the ſame charitable aſſiſtance, they had formerly experienced; having then my two ſons with me to aſſiſt, I complied without heſitation.

Nothing ſhews the increaſe and ſtate of population ſo clearly, as an experiment of this kind; we had then upwards of two hundred

hundred and fifty patients, ſome of whom were new inhabitants, but the reſt conſiſted for the moſt part of very young children. Neceſſity has often produced uſeful diſcoveries; the Inoculation was begun on Midſummer-day, and though the weather proved very hot, I obſerved no inconvenience from it; they had the free uſe of air, and ſeemed as much benefited by it as at any other ſeaſon of the year; and every one recovered.

In the year 1774 the diſeaſe appeared a third time; the ſame requeſt was renewed, and with the ſame aſſiſtance afforded, the whole town was inoculated once more, and now the number amounted only to about one hundred and twenty; from that time we have heard nothing of Small Pox, and I verily believe, that within theſe ten years not ſix perſons have died in Hertford of this diſeaſe; whereas before the practice was ſo generally adopted, the Small Pox has frequently been epidemic and deſtroyed a great number of the inhabitants, beſides injuring the market and trade of the town for a conſiderable time.

The inferences one may fairly draw from theſe premiſes are, that in ſmall towns or villages, if ſome are inoculated and others excluded, unleſs more precautions are uſed than may reaſonably be apprehended, the conſequence will be, that the diſeaſe will ſpread through the vicinage, and be fatal to many.

On the contrary, if by general conſent a public Inoculation is agreed on, and the poor are ſupplied with neceſſaries, the happieſt conſequences may be reaſonably expected; and further, the good effect of repeated general Inoculations in the town of Hertford demonſtrate, that large towns may with great advantage avail themſelves of the ſame means, and, by occaſionally repeating the practice, be ſecured from the ravages of this juſtly dreaded diſeaſe.

On general and partial Inoculations in London, or other large and populous places.

IT ſhould be remarked, that what has hitherto been ſaid relates to the conduct of this practice in villages and ſmall towns, who are capable of uniting in a general plan for their common benefit. What I next propoſe to conſider is, how far a practicable method can be adopted for general Inoculation in London, or in other large and populous places, where it is impoſſible to obtain the conſent of all the inhabitants to be inoculated at one and the ſame time.

To be the more clearly underſtood, I deſire the diſtinction in the former part of general and partial Inoculations may be remembered; and that by the firſt I mean, where the whole number of inhabitants of any town or place are inoculated at the ſame time, with the exception only of

ſuch as are not in a proper ſtate of health, and thoſe who may not chuſe to ſubmit to that mode of receiving the diſeaſe. By the ſecond, where a part only of the inhabitants are inoculated, and the remainder left to take their chance of catching the diſeaſe from their inoculated neighbours.

The poſſibility of performing a general Inoculation on all the inhabitants of this city and ſuburbs at one time, will ſcarce bear a moment's conſideration, ſo many and ſo inſuperable are the difficulties which would occur in a free country. I ſhall therefore decline entering upon the ſubject; and quitting all thoughts of a general practice, ſhall conſider how far the inoculation of ſuch poor perſons as may make application for this purpoſe, can be complied with in London, conſiſtent with the ſafety of themſelves and others.

It may reaſonably be preſumed, that the greater number of theſe will be perſons in narrow circumſtances, or in a ſtate of poverty, having nothing beforehand to ſupport an illneſs, and yet the whole family

who

who have not had the diſeaſe are to be inoculated. Whoever has viſited the abodes of the poor in and about London, muſt allow the ſcene to be truly miſerable; their habitations in cloſe alleys, courts, and lanes, generally cold, dirty, and in great want of neceſſaries, even of bedding itſelf, a requiſite of the greateſt uſe in time of ſickneſs; there are frequently ſeveral families under one roof; the men, if induſtrious, employed in daily labour, the women in waſhing and aſſiſting in different families, or waiting at markets to carry little burdens as porters, and other unavoidable employments abroad. None of theſe can remit their occupations to attend the ſick, without expoſing their families to the diſtreſs which the want of the little money their induſtry earned would infallibly occaſion; how or in what manner are patients to be nurſed and ſupplied with food and neceſſaries during the illneſs, or who is to be relied on, that the medicines and diet enjoined by the perſon who attends, ſhall be regularly complied with?

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Can any one be ſo inconſiderate as to bring diſeaſe into a family before healthy, without having firſt a reaſonable expectation, that what their ſituation may require will certainly be provided? no one acquainted with the general temper of pariſh officers, will much depend on their aſſiſtance; on the contrary, they will moſt probably oppoſe the plan to the utmoſt of their endeavours, from an apprehenſion that the diſeaſe will be ſpread by theſe means, and occaſion a conſequent increaſe of expence to the pariſh.

But admitting theſe objections could be removed, one very important point, that more immediately reſpects the ſecurity of the patients and the public, ſhould be attended to.

One great cauſe of the ſucceſs that attends the preſent practice, is ſuppoſed to be the expoſure of patients to freſh air; and the more alarming the ſymptoms, the greater is the neceſſity of adminiſtering this ſalutary relief. The poor who are inoculated in their own confined dwellings,

with perhaps many in family, will aſſuredly require this reviving ventilation. They have no gardens, areas, or the convenience of carriages; are they to be carried or led about the ſtreets when ill, to the terror and danger of the neighbourhood?

Having ſuggeſted a few of the difficulties that muſt enſue to the patients, it will not be improper to conſider, how far the community will be likely to be affected by the practice.

To conduct the buſineſs of the Inoculation, ſome place or places centrically ſituated muſt be provided, at which the patients ſhould aſſemble in order to be inoculated, and to which the ſeveral families of the ſick muſt have recourſe for the neceſſary medicines and directions during the diſtemper. To find one or more ſuch places in the whole city, where the neighbourhood would ſuffer an office of this kind to be eſtabliſhed, at which a great number of the poor muſt be aſſembled at noon-day, to receive an infectious and dangerous diſeaſe, is hardly poſſible to conceive; and if

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we conſider that theſe perſons muſt intermix with others, who are attending to procure the neceſſary medicines for their diſeaſed families, and who have been obliged to make their way on foot through the public ſtreets, from every quarter of the metropolis, in their infected apparel, the public danger becomes great and inevitable.

But ſhould the poor who are proper to undergo the operation be inoculated, and means for their ſubſiſtence be provided, queſtions will ariſe reſpecting the fate of their neighbours, ſome of whom will be precluded from the ſame advantage, by being affected with other diſeaſes, and others, who have ſtrong prejudices againſt it, will be totally averſe to the practice. Is it reaſonable to bring the Small Pox to the doors of perſons thus circumſtanced, againſt their conſent? one ſhudders at the thought of ſuch an inſult to humanity! But it is not only the immediate neighbours that would be endangered; to be well informed how far the miſchief might be extended, one muſt take into account the ſituation and

conduct

conduct of the patients, and it may ſafely be aſſerted from experience, that the following would be found to be a true repreſentation.

The inoculated may be divided into two claſſes. One in whom the diſtemper is ſo mild as to admit the parties to go abroad; the other, where the number of puſtules is ſo conſiderable as to confine the patients at home; by far the greater number will be of the firſt ſort; and whatever orders may be given to the contrary, it will be impoſſible to reſtrain them from taking undue liberties; the children who are of an age for it will be found in the ſtreets with their former playfellows, and the men and women who are able, will be endeavouring to get into their former employments to earn a little money, without regarding the injury they may occaſion to others. The few who may be confined with a leſs favourable diſeaſe, will infect the houſe and their family, and the infection will be ſpread from the goſſiping diſpoſition of the poor, who are generally troubleſome viſitants, to their ſick neighbours, and after

all is over, the firſt ſallying forth in their infected cloaths is certain to add to the miſchief.

It is unneceſſary to dwell any longer on the conſequences of ſuch a conduct to the reſidents in ſuch alleys; but there are others who claim our regard.

Country people who are obliged to come to town to tranſact their buſineſs, and others who bring their families to viſit relations, or to entertain them with the pleaſures of the town, are generally under dreadful apprehenſions of the Small Pox; how would their fears and danger be increaſed, if the poor were continually under inoculation?

Another thoughtleſs, but moſt uſeful race of men, are well entitled to our beſt endeavours for the preſervation of their healths and lives: I mean, ſailors and ſeafaring men, of our own and other countries; it is well known that our ſhores, on both ſides of the river, are continually crouded

crouded with theſe, during their ſtay in this country.

Many of them have not had the Small Pox, and their mode of living is the reverſe of due preparation; if Inoculation ſhould be practiſed in the houſes of the poor, it cannot be doubted that many of theſe would catch this diſtemper?

Is it poſſible to reflect without horror on the ſituation of ſuch of thoſe unhappy fellows, who ſhould fall ill of the Small Pox in the miſerable lodgings they uſually inhabit, perhaps without a friend to take the leaſt care of them? or of the ſtill more calamitous ſtate of others, who being infected on ſhore ſhould fall ſick at ſea, where neither medicine nor proper attendance can be had, and carry likewiſe with them in their unwaſhed cloaths, the fatal diſtemper into diſtant climates?

I have been informed, that a child who had received the infection was taken on board an Eaſt Indiaman many years ago. The diſeaſe was violent; the linen, &c.

were put into a box, and carried to the Cape of Good Hope: it was ſent on ſhore; the Small Pox immediately broke out in the place, and carried off vaſt numbers of the inhabitants.

In the foregoing pages, ſome of the objections to partial Inoculations of the poor in this city have been ſtated; but the poſſibility of extending the practice to any good purpoſe, even if thoſe objections were removed, has not been taken notice of: to elucidate this point, which is certainly a material one, the following remarks are ſubmitted to conſideration.

The number of thoſe who died of the Small Pox in each of the laſt four years, on an average is 2544. To ſuppoſe that one dies out of every ſix who have the natural diſtemper, will be allowed a moderate eſtimate: it follows then, that the number of thoſe who have paſſed through the diſeaſe in each of the laſt four years will be 15,264. It will be impoſſible to determine how many may remain uninfected; but if we ſuppoſe that every year one out of eight

who have not had the diſeaſe is ſeized with it, the remaining number who have not had the Small Pox will be 122,112; and it muſt be taken into account, that the annual recruits by births will probably be about 20,000, beſides others that are continually arriving out of the country to ſeek employment.

To form a ſcheme, however beneficial to a few, that would probably ſpread the diſeaſe, and involve ſo great a number of others in a danger that they would otherwiſe be much leſs expoſed to, is an object of great moment; and moſt certainly the Legiſlature ought firſt to be conſulted.

Great liberty may be taken in our free ſtate; but we ought not to endanger the public ſafety, becauſe no legal proviſion is made againſt it.

Of an Hoſpital for Inoculation.

IF the objections that have been noticed ſhould be deemed of ſufficient force to ſet aſide all thoughts of partial Inoculations of the poor in London, what is to be done will next become the queſtion? It would be cruel and unreaſonable to refuſe the benefit of this diſcovery to the neceſſitous, who on that very account are moſt intitled to our aſſiſtance; yet how to provide for them, conſiſtent with the ſafety of their neighbours, ſeems difficult, though I hope not impracticable.

A deſire to ſee ſome expedient for this purpoſe ſucceed, induces me to ſubmit to the conſideration of the public, a propoſal that is in my apprehenſion liable to few objections, and would beſt anſwer the purpoſe.

It is to eſtabliſh an Hoſpital for the purpoſe of Inoculation only.

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I am aware that Hoſpitals have been ſtigmatized as unhealthy, from the idea that a number of ſick perſons confined together corrupt the air, and generate contagious putrid diſeaſes. This charge has, I think, been inconſiderately made, ſo far as relates to Hoſpitals in and near this metropolis; but as it is no part of my undertaking to diſpute the point, I ſhall confine myſelf to what concerns an Hoſpital for Inoculation, which, if every circumſtance is duly attended to, will be as little unhealthy as any houſe in the kingdom.

Let us for a moment drop the offenſive name of Hoſpital, and ſuppoſe a large houſe is provided in a healthy ſituation, with convenient and airy apartments for the reception of any given number of perſons capable of being commodiouſly contained in it; that to be in a good ſtate of health would be the neceſſary qualification on the admiſſion of every perſon, and about three weeks the time of the reſidence; and that the diſeaſe they are to undergo is uſually ſo mild, as to permit moſt of the patients to be abroad in the open air almoſt

every

every day, and of a nature not to communicate any putrid injury to others, except its own ſpecific poiſon. If to theſe circumſtances we add, that the patients will in general be children and young perſons, that their cloaths and apartments will be clean, and their food wholeſome and ſuch as is proper for their condition, ſurely one may boldly aſſert, that a family thus circumſtanced will have the faireſt proſpect of enjoying good health.

Having endeavoured to remove the prejudice that is apt to accompany the idea of an Hoſpital ſo far as relates to health, I ſhall proceed to enumerate the advantages that will moſt probably be obtained by an inſtitution of this kind; ſome of theſe have been already mentioned in the tranſlation, and I ſhall take the liberty of introducing them again in this place, with little variation, as they relate to the ſubject.

" One, and indeed no inconſiderable advantage to be derived from a plan of this ſort will be, that all the patients being collected together in one houſe, the phy-

ſician

ſician will be enabled to attend a great number at the ſame time in a proper manner, and can be particularly attentive to ſuch as may more immediately require his aſſiſtance.

" And it is of no ſmall importance to thoſe who are inoculated, that the neceſſary regulations in reſpect to regimen, as well as every other circumſtance that requires the phyſician's attention, will be there properly obſerved, and the neceſſary medicines always at hand, with an able perſon to direct the manner ~~that~~ they ought to be adminiſtered.

" There is likewiſe another advantage obtained by this method, that with proper caution the Small Pox will not be communicated to others in the natural way of infection.

It is alſo an encouraging circumſtance, that an eſtabliſhment of this ſort will be attended with leſs expence, in ſeveral particulars, than any other Hoſpital.

One phyſician will be able to ſuperintend the proceſs of Inoculation in a very great number of patients, provided he is aſſiſted by a reſident apothecary to receive his inſtruction, and to be at hand to aſſiſt on extraordinary emergencies.

Few drugs or medicines will be wanted; the expence therefore on theſe articles will be very trifling.

Few attendants on the ſick will be neceſſary, and not ſo much as one under the character of a nurſe; for there will always be a ſufficient number of patients in ſo good a ſtate of health, as to be able to attend on thoſe who may require aſſiſtance; and it ſhould be one condition of their admittance, that they ſhould be willing to aſſiſt others when able, as they would wiſh to be attended themſelves when they ſtand in need of it; and if this injunction is complied with, it may be expected that there will be a ſufficient number in a ſtate of health to perform this office for one another. The doing the heavy and dirty part of the work, the care of the children,

the

the attendance of thoſe who may have the diſeaſe more ſeverely, and the buſineſs of the kitchen, will doubtleſs require a proper number of healthy maid-ſervants.

In reſpect to diet, as it will be chiefly of the vegetable and leaſt expenſive kinds of food, this will be a very moderate article in the œconomy of ſuch an eſtabliſhment."

On the Hoſpitals at Pancras.

THE Hoſpitals for Small Pox in the natural way and Inoculation were inſtituted in 1746, and have been ſupported by voluntary ſubſcription.

Theſe Hoſpitals conſiſt of two houſes at a ſufficient diſtance from each other, and in airy ſituations.

That for preparing the patients for inoculation at Pancras contains 100 beds; and that for receiving them when the diſeaſe appears, and for admitting thoſe who are ſeized with the Small Pox in the natural way, in Cold Bath Fields, 130 beds.

All who are deſtitute of friends or money and are attacked with this diſeaſe, or are deſirous of being inoculated, if ſeven years old or upwards, are proper objects of this charity.

Patients

Patients in the natural way are received every day, if there is room for them; and to prevent the danger and expence of a diſappointment, enquiry ſhould be firſt made. Patients for Inoculation are alſo received every day at Pancras before nine in the morning.

Strangers are forbid to viſit the patients.

Cloaths are provided for the patients, while their own cloaths are freed from infection before their diſcharge.

As the firſt outline of every attempt towards a new inſtitution has for the moſt part been imperfect, it is not to be wondered at if the plan and regulations of theſe Hoſpitals ſhould admit of improvements; and the following remarks will perhaps point out ſome regulations that deſerve attention.

It is now near thirty years ſince the firſt eſtabliſhment of this charity; at which time it was the received opinion that a ſtrict regimen ought to be obſerved, and a courſe

courſe of medicine complied with, by way of preparing the moſt healthy previous to their Inoculation. It was alſo believed, that there was ſome riſque of taking the natural infection injurioufly at the time of being inoculated, and danger of accumulation by reſiding with others who had the diſeaſe; and the inoculators of that time who made uſe of infected thread and lint, ſometimes failed infecting on the firſt trial, and in ſuch caſe the patient would probably catch the natural diſtemper by cohabiting with the ſick.

Theſe opinions, it is preſumed, joined with the deſign of admitting patients in the natural Small Pox, determined the firſt Governors to have two Hoſpitals; one, to contain all ſuch who were actually undergoing the diſeaſe in either way, and in a ſtate to infect others: the other to be appropriated to ſuch only who were under preparation, or having been inoculated had as yet no appearance of the uſual eruptive ſymptoms, and were not in a condition to infect one another. But theſe opinions have not been verified by experience; on the

the contrary, it has turned out that the precautions were not neceſſary. Experience aſſures us, that a perſon in good health may be ſafely inoculated without any preparation, and that all the regulations in reſpect to diet and the neceſſary courſe of medicine, may be ſufficiently complied with in the week that intervenes between the operation and the commencement of the diſeaſe. With reſpect to a double infection, that is, by Inoculation and in the uſual courſe of communication, or an accumulation of the diſtemper afterwards by living with thoſe who are actually labouring under it, no ill conſequence need be feared; for I am perfectly ſatisfied, that after Inoculation is effectually performed, no injury can be ſuſtained by living with others in the moſt infectious ſtate. And even if the firſt Inoculation ſhould fail infecting (which if proper care is taken will ſcarce ever happen) the failure may be diſcovered on the third or fourth day, and the patient may be inoculated again; and even then, ſhould there be a moral certainty that the natural infection has been taken, it will be in time to prevent any ill

effects;

effects; the inoculated diſeaſe will as it were ſupercede and annihilate the former infection, and the patient have the Small Pox from Inoculation only.

I am aware that ſome apology is neceſſary on publiſhing opinions that may be deemed improbable in ſo laconic a manner; this is no place to purſue the ſubject: but I mean ſoon to ſupport theſe aſſertions by relating certain facts on which they are founded. It is probable, that from a deliberate conſideration of theſe circumſtances, ſome conſiderable improvements may be made in the regulations of the Hoſpital.

A principal one ſhould be, to quit the practice of bringing the inoculated patients to reſide with thoſe who have the natural diſeaſe; a circumſtance that could not have been conſented to but from the former miſtaken opinions which have been noticed. A conſiderable advantage will alſo be gained to the œconomy of the Hoſpital, on account of the time of the patients reſidence being ſhortened; by which means a greater

number may be inoculated at the ſame expence.

I hope to ſtand excuſed from having made theſe remarks here, as in the ſequel I mean to propoſe an enlargement of the Hoſpital at Pancras.

Having taken notice of the moſt material articles that have occurred relative to this ſubject, I ſhall venture, though with much diffidence, to ſubmit ſome outlines of an Hoſpital for Inoculation to the public, premiſing, that in reſpect to ſituation, the environs of London do not ſeem to afford a better ſpot than that on which the inoculating Hoſpital at Pancras is built, which, with the ground adjoining to it being four acres, is ſufficient for the accommodation of any number of patients for the benefit of the air; in ſhort, every local advantage would be there enjoyed in great perfection: the preſent building is not however capacious enough for ſuch a purpoſe, but it may be enlarged, and the whole extent of ground ought to be walled

in, to prevent all intercourſe with others, or giving any offence to the public; and I have not the leaſt doubt of the acquieſcence and aſſiſtance of the preſent governors, to any ſcheme for the extenſion of this noble and uſeful charity, as they have, with a moſt diſtinguiſhed application and diſintereſtedneſs, employed their beſt endeavours to promote the intereſt of the preſent eſtabliſhment.

But previous to every other ſtep, an application to Parliament for encouragement, and proper powers to carry this deſign into execution, ſeems neceſſary; for it will not be ſufficient to open an Hoſpital for Inoculation, without offering ſomething as an inducement to invite thoſe who are proper objects to accept of the benefits intended. Amongſt the lower claſſes of people in the metropolis, as well as in many other places, the voice of the generality is againſt Inoculation; prejudices are not eaſily removed; nor is it to be expected that the many will attend to the advantages that will reſult to their children, unleſs

unleſs ſome preſent benefits were to be connected with them *.

If pariſh officers were obliged by Act of Parliament to apply to the Hoſpital for the admiſſion of every man or woman who ſhould either on their own account, or on behalf of their children, expreſs a deſire of being inoculated, and on their being taken in to ſupply each with two new ſhirts or ſhifts, and ſign an obligation to provide decent new cloathing for every one on their receiving notice of their recovery

* While the Empreſs was under Inoculation at Sarſco-celo, ſome of the poor of the adjoining village were alſo, on the encouragement ſhe had given, inoculated.

I remember the Empreſs ſaid to me, with that vivacity and liberality of ſentiment for which ſhe is remarkably diſtinguiſhed, " If I was to order the poor of this neighbourhood to be inoculated, it would be complied with, and be beneficial to them; but I love to uſe perſuaſive means, rather than authority; on this account I have advanced a rouble (about four ſhillings) to each that would conſent, and ſeveral have accepted it and recovered; but I find they now talk of raiſing the price to two roubles, which I muſt conſent to as a further encouragement, for I wiſh the practice may be advanced by the mildeſt methods."

and time of diſmiſſion, and alſo to give a ſmall gratuity (ſuppoſe half a crown) to every perſon of the age of and to the parents of every child, on producing a certificate of their having behaved decently, and complied with the rules of the houſe, ſigned by the phyſician, it would probably be a ſufficient inducement, and at the ſame time the freſh cloathing would effectually prevent the ſpreading the diſeaſe to others. And this could not be reaſonably deemed a hardſhip, ſince ſome of the moſt reſpectable old Hoſpitals exact as much on admiſſion of pariſh patients *.

It is ſcarcely to be doubted but that Parliament would cheerfully embrace a plan of this nature, which has for its object the preſervation of the lives of the poor, and carrying them and their children

* At St. Thomas's Hoſpital, every patient on admiſſion pays 2s. 6d. if clean, or 10s. 6d. if venereal; and the overſeer or churchwarden of the pariſh ſigns an obligation that he will find clean body linen every week, and pay four pence a day ſo long as he continues in the Hoſpital, and receive him when diſcharged, or take away the body, or pay the burial fees to the ſteward of the Hoſpital, in caſe of death.

ſafely

ſafely through this terrible diſeaſe, without endangering their neighbourhoods.

Pariſhes would likewiſe find their account in it: by a known moderate charge they would be releaſed from the contingent great expence of maintaining many ſick families, occaſionally afflicted with the Small Pox in the natural way; oftentimes to the great injury of trade and manufactures: and this by a trifling advance to be beſtowed but once during the life of an individual, who would be maintained about three weeks without any further expence, and return home to wear the cloaths they had beſtowed on him.

Thus much I have thought neceſſary to ſtate, from a moral certainty that ſome proviſion of this ſort ſhould be made; to proceed, would be entering into minute matters that would more properly belong to the governors, who will be beſt able to make ſuch regulations as may be for the general benefit of the charity.

So

So much has already been ſaid on general Inoculations in the country, that it ſeems unneceſſary to enter on the ſubject again in this place. But ſuch is the obſtinacy of ſome pariſhes, and the parſimony of others, that it is impoſſible for the poor who are deſirous of being inoculated, to perſuade them to advance the ſmall ſum that would be neceſſary to defray the expence; and they are therefore obliged to wait the event of the natural diſeaſe, while the principal inhabitants are ſecuring their own families by Inoculation.

Another unjuſtifiable piece of frugality that deſerves attention and to be remedied is, that in many places where the whole number of poor have been inoculated at the expence of the pariſh, illiterate fellows, totally unacquainted with diſeaſes or remedies, have been employed on account of cheapneſs only; when at the ſame time the families of the wealthy have been under the care of medical gentlemen of good reputation. To inſert all the inſtances that might be produced of parochial meanneſs would be tedious; I ſhall

mention

mention the following only, which may be relied on as an indiſputable truth. The inhabitants of a certain pariſh had a meeting to agree on inoculating all the poor; ſome medical gentlemen in the neighbourhood offered to undertake the buſineſs at a very low price; but as cheapneſs was the only object of conſideration, the pariſh was about to agree with a blackſmith at eighteen pence a head, when one of the moſt frugal ſtarted this objection: It is very probable that under this man's care we may have ſome die, and the expence of their burial may coſt the pariſh ſo much, that it might be as well to agree with a better man. This objection was thus removed by the ſmith:—"Come, I'll tell "you what I'll do with you.—Give me half "a crown a head, and them that die I will "carry to the church-yard without putting "the pariſh to any further expence."

Thus to trifle with the lives of their indigent fellow creatures, muſt be an indelible reproach to any people. I know it will be ſaid, that many inſtances can be produced, where whole pariſhes of poor

have been inoculated, and have ſucceeded very well, under the care of perſons who were totally unacquainted with medicine.

I will not here diſpute the truth of this aſſertion; and indeed, if it was not an eaſy matter to procure more able help, it might be better to continue the practice in that way than to neglect inoculating entirely; but this is not the caſe. Gentlemen of the profeſſion of good abilities will go very low in their price; and when it is conſidered that the ſum is to be paid but once in the life of each perſon, ſurely pariſhes ought to be compelled to employ one who has had a medical education, and others ſhould be reſtrained to their own proper buſineſs.

But it happens not unfrequently that irregular and dangerous ſymptoms appear, and at other times a different diſeaſe attacks the patient at the ſame time, with ſome unuſual complaints while under Inoculation; theſe ſituations would certainly require the aſſiſtance of a perſon who could judge well of the ſymptoms, and diſtinguiſh

guiſh the diſeaſes properly, and know how to treat them, which a man unacquainted with the principles or the practice of phyſic could not pretend to, and conſequently the patient would be expoſed to great danger. Should an Act of Parliament be procured, it would be neceſſary to provide for the following circumſtances.

That every pariſh (with the exception of ſuch large places as ſhould be thought too populous to be included) ſhould be enjoined to offer Inoculation to all their poor who ſhould be willing to admit of it *; that the patients and their families ſhould be maintained during their illneſs; that the perſon employed to inoculate ſhould have had ſome education in medicine as phyſician, ſurgeon, or apothecary; and that once in five years the ſame offer ſhould be renewed, leaving the time of year and other circumſtances to the option of the pariſh.

* Vide Page 3, &c.

If theſe obligatory clauſes were obtained, general Inoculations in the country might be carried on at a very moderate expence.

CON-

CONCLUSION.

ON a review of what has been advanced it will appear, that the practice of Inoculation has been upon the whole rather hurtful than advantageous to the city of London, and that the mortality from Small Pox has lately increaſed to an alarming degree: that it may be preſumed this loſs has not been ſuſtained by the wealthy, who have availed themſelves of their eaſy circumſtances, and by timely Inoculation have ſecured their families; but that the loſs has fallen principally among thoſe who are not the leaſt uſeful members of the community, viz. on young perſons, the offspring of inferior trades-people, and the labouring poor.

It has been ſhewn, that to encourage partial Inoculations among ſuch of the poor as might be willing to accept the offer, and ſhould be found in a proper ſtate of health, would be to increaſe the evil, by

ſpreading the diſeaſe in a deſtructive manner among their neighbours, and be on other accounts dangerous and intolerable. An hoſpital for the purpoſe of Inoculation *only* has been reſcued from the unjuſt charge of being unhealthy, and has been proved to enjoy ſuperior advantages in that reſpect, and many others; and that a well-regulated plan of this kind would effectually anſwer the purpoſes of abating the mortality, and ſecuring the community from being infected by the patients.

An application therefore to the Legiſlature for approbation and aſſiſtance ſeems highly expedient; and it is not to be doubted but the generous and humane would readily be induced to raiſe by ſubſcription a fund ſufficient to carry theſe good deſigns into execution; ſo that as we are the firſt European nation who received and encouraged Inoculation, we may alſo have the honour of being the firſt who have generouſly diffuſed the benefit of it to the community at large, and tranſmitted it to poſterity.

We

We have thus far only taken into conſideration what reſpects the two extremes of ſociety, the opulent and indigent; but there ſtill remains a numerous and reſpectable part of the community unnoticed, I mean, perſons who are in but moderate circumſtances, yet above accepting the charity of an hoſpital.

Perſons thus circumſtanced ſeem to have a claim upon the humanity of ſuch practitioners as are eminent in their profeſſion; who, from that motive, we doubt not, will chearfully give their attendance on ſuch terms as families can afford. By this well-timed generoſity, the minds of the middle rank of people will be made eaſy, and it will be a great inducement for them alſo to inoculate their families.

To conclude, I have uſed my beſt endeavours to repreſent the whole that has been treated of in its true light, and recommended the methods that have ſeemed to me to anſwer the purpoſes moſt effectually. It may probably happen, that zeal in the cauſe may have carried me too far,

or that through inadvertency ſome errors may have been made. If they are pointed out, I will acknowledge them with thanks to the informer, having nothing more in view than the good of the public, and that the practice recommended may be ſo conducted as to afford its oppoſers as few objections, on any ſolid ground, as poſſible.

It is ſo truly the cauſe of humanity, and ſo certain of anſwering the purpoſe, that I moſt earneſtly recommend a liberal ſupport to all charitably diſpoſed perſons, and more eſpecially to ſuch in affluent circumſtances, who may have experienced the happy effects of Inoculation in their own families, concluding with the words conſtantly uſed by a beggar in Turky,

WHAT THOU DOEST, THOU DOEST TO THYSELF.

FINIS.

ERRATA.

Page 1. *before* Methods, *read* A Deſcription of the.
l. 9. *for* Agreeable, *read* In obedience.
20. l. 11. *for* have, *read* hath.
26. l. 4. *dele* one.
49. l. 13. *after* manner *dele* that, *and read* in which.
l. 4. from the bottom, *dele* the inverted Commas.
50. l. 8. *for* the, *read* theſe.
50, 51. *dele* the inverted Commas.

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